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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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DISMANTLING OF FARBENFABRIK WOLFEN

1. After the conclusion of World War II, the Soviets dismantled a number of chemical plants at Farbenfabrik Wolfen, principally those that produced products of military value. Special attention was given to the production of non-military color-film dye components. At present, the factory is engaged in research and production of textile dyes for non-military purposes, and produces fertilizers, fodders, dyes, nitric and sulfuric acids, caustic, chlorine, sulfides, silver nitrates, ion exchangers, and silica gel.
2. Immediately after the occupation of Germany by the Soviets in June 1945, special teams of Soviet technicians and specialists began to make an inventory of available facilities and documents at Wolfen, and shortly thereafter the dismantling of specifically chosen installations began. Most of the former employees at the plant were rehired for this purpose. The installations chosen for dismantling mostly had produced war goods. Those that were completely dismantled included:

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- a. The "Z-Anlage" for manufacture of ethylene glycol and diethylene glycol.

The total output had been shipped elsewhere

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for intration to the dinitrates, used for explosives. This plant was reassembled at Igumnovo, USSR.

- b. The "Ph-Anlage" for the preparation of phosgene, all of the output of which had been used in the "St-Anlage", below. None of the production had been used for poison-gas.
- c. The various "St-Anlage" for the preparation of stabilizers for explosives. These were diphenyl urea derivatives, which were used for nitro-glycerine and related explosives because of their ability to absorb the undesirable nitrogen oxides and nitric acid in the charge.
- d. The "DIP-Anlage" for the preparation of asym.-dinitrodiphenyl amine, later to be nitrated at another plant to hexanitrodiphenyl amine. The latter was employed as a booster for mine charges.
- e. The "Waffenentgiftungsmittelanlage". This installation^{for} produced N-chloro-ethanesulfonamide, an outstanding decontamination agent against mustard gas (Senftgas), prepared by the direct chlorination of ethanesulfonamide in the solvent "Zetamol", which was tri- (beta-chloroethyl) phosphone.
- f. The "Azo-M" installation for the production of Meta-Chrome Dyes.
- g. The "Gipsschwefelsaeure-Anlage", or Gypsum Sulfuric Acid installations, including the building that housed them. These installations were never reassembled, and were seen in a dismantled condition as late as 1951 at a location in the vicinity of the Khimkombinat plant at Rubezhnoye [redacted]

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However, most of the completely dismantled plants that survived shipping were reassembled at Rubezhnoye and also at Tambov. At the latter city there was at that time a large central pool for dismantled chemical equipment, [redacted] a new chemical plant was under construction there as well.

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3. Installations that were only partially dismantled included:

- a. The power station;
- b. the fertilizer plant;
- c. the dye manufacturing plant; and
- d. the various installations for the preparation of dye intermediates.

Part of the laboratories and most of the scientific library was also transported to the USSR.

- 4. The production of color-film dye components occupied the attention of Wolfen, and was undoubtedly the most active field of interest at Farbenfabrik Wolfen except for the dismantling program. (The USSR apparently wished to create a monopoly in the production and sale of color-film dye components in Europe, but lacked both production facilities and know-how. They had at first assigned production quotas to be fulfilled by the

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non-existent facilities at Farbenfabrik Wolfen, and as soon as the required installations were built and in operation, many of them were dismantled and were shipped to the USSR. Included in the assigned quotas were a number of intermediates, and Farbenfabrik Wolfen made a strenuous effort to fulfill the requirements in spite of the fact that many of the procedures had not been developed beyond the laboratory stage. These quotas were substantially filled at the end of 1946. Most of the achieved production was shipped to the USSR, with but a small fraction made available to the sister plant Filmfabrik Wolfen for its own use. This development work was financed by the sale of products that were already in production, such as dyes, fertilizers, perfumes, cosmetics, etc., in keeping with the principle that German factories were to be economically self-supporting.

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5.

In spite of the fact that Farbenfabrik Wolfen was listed in 1951 as a Soviet-directed S.A.G. plant (Staatseigene Aktiengesellschaft), its production program was and still is included in the current DDR Five-Year Plan. The Farbenfabrik was officially designated a VEB (Volkseigener Betrieb) factory on 1 May 1952, (i.e., all profits henceforth paid to DDR) but the change in status was not accompanied by any noticeable change in organization nor by any assurance that the management would be able to show a greater profit than it had before. In practice, annual specific one-year-plans were drafted that included both production as well as research and development.

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the chief of planning and the chief of production together worked out quarterly and monthly norms that were based on market analyses and on the availability of starting materials. In general, the norms were adjusted to correspond to maximum achieved production. The DDR now gives financial support to the extent of 1,500,000 Ostmarks for research at Farbenfabrik Wolfen.

Organization of VEB Farbenfabrik Wolfen

6. The organization of VEB Farbenfabrik Wolfen as of June 1953 approximately is outlined below. Plant management is under the control of Dr. WINKLER, secretary of the Chemical Ministry, whose office is located in Berlin.

a. Management

The company director since 1 January 1953 has been Dr. Max SCHULZE, a member of the SED. The assistant director and plant superintendent is named Dr. BAUMANN. The chief engineer is Dr. KRATZ. The present director of sales is not known.

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The chief bookkeeper probably is SCHULZ, and he may be a member of the SED. The labor director is YAHN, an SED member. The research director is Dr. MIRAU. The planning chief is named Dr. BRAUNS. The director of cultural activities, including personnel administration, political indoctrination and propaganda, is GRAEFE, an SED member.

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b. Production

- (1) Nitrogen Division. The division chief is Dr. NEMITZ. Branches include (a) the ammonia-combustion department for nitric acid production; (b) fertilizers (calcium ammonium nitrate); (c) acid concentration (sulfuric acid).
- (2) Inorganic Division. The division chief is Dr. REISSMANN. Branches include: (a) gypsum sulfuric acid plant; (b) contact-process sulfuric acid plant (from pyrites); (c) electrolysis plant (for sodium hydroxide and chlorine); (d) pigment plant (iron oxides); (e) sodium sulfide plant; (f) silver nitrate plant; (g) brown-coal coking and gas production plant; (h) ion-exchanger preparation (Wofatit); and (i) silica-gel preparation (Kieselgel). The scientific research laboratory of the Inorganic Division is under Dr. GRIESSBACH, who had been active in the development of ion-exchange resins.
- (3) Intermediates Division. The division chiefs are Dr. BUTTEN-SCHON and Dr. BITTNER. Branches include: (a) dye intermediates preparation. (It was planned that this branch would be able to prepare all of the intermediates that were required for its dye manufacturing program); (b) ether plant; (c) perfume preparation; (d) pharmaceuticals; (e) bacterial fodder (Futterhefe) preparation; (f) synthetic tanning agents; (g) synthetic detergents, especially "Mersolat", a sulfenated mineral oil; (h) textile sizes; (i) color-film dye components preparation (Agfa process); and (j) cosmetics. The division research laboratory, directed by Prof. RIECHE and by Prof. SEIDEL, is active in the development of new dye intermediates, pharmaceuticals, and perfumes, and is supported by an annual grant of about 500,000 Ostmarks given by the DDR. About fifteen research chemists are employed in this laboratory, and provision has been made to accommodate about eight students from the University of Halle in order that they may pursue their studies towards the doctorate.
- (4) Dyes Division. The division chief is Dr. WUTKE. Branches include: (a) sulfur dyes preparation, including Sulfur Black; (b) azodyes preparation, especially wool dyes and pigments.
- (5) Paints and Lacquer Division. The division chief is Dr. von HORNUFF. This division produces paint and lacquer dyes, maintains a quality control section, and conducts development work on new dyes.

c. Plant Utilities

The utilities division is under the general direction of Dipl. Ing. UMLAUFF. The power station distributes 380-volt three-phase and 220-volt single-phase current and is managed by Dipl. Ing. LOTZ. The fire-alarm system and telephone (the latter is connected with the system in Elektrochemisches Kombinat, Bitterfeld) is under the care of Dipl. Ing. FRANZ. The plant utilities division also has a series of repair shops, garages, etc. Construction is managed by Dipl. Ing. URGINUS, and the plant has rigging and underground construction sections as well.

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d. Sales and Purchasing

These plant activities are supported from plant funds. A distinction is made between chemical purchasing and the purchase of technical goods. The sales office is organized according to the products sold: e.g., dyes, perfumes, fertilizers, etc. An accounting office for interzonal commerce also is maintained.

e. Personnel

It has been noted that the turnover rate at Farbenfabrik Wolfen is fairly high, and that key positions are filled by SED party members only. However, it must be remembered that membership in the SED is compulsory for key personnel, and that as a consequence most of the members cannot be classed as agitators.

7. According to the current Five-Year Plan, it is planned to complete the required development work on various naphthol AS dyes and on various copper substantive dyes, (as a group called "Benzoechtkupferfarbstoffe") and to start production in 1955. These textile dyes are without military application. Included also is a development program for eventual production of the required dye intermediates. At the moment the development work has not progressed beyond the advanced laboratory stage, and it is rather doubtful that significant progress in research and development with these dyes will be achieved because of the current serious shortage of experienced chemists. Financial support to the extent of 500,000 Ostmarks per year is provided by the DDR government for this work, because of the decision to depend completely upon the State economy rather than upon plant funds.

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8.

The various subgroups met every few weeks, whereas the divisional committees met every few months at Leipzig or Halle. The Soviet occupation authorities did not participate in the activities of the various committees.

9. The One-Year Plan Operational Committees for Farbenfabrik Wolfen were divided into the (a) Inorganic Chemistry Division, [redacted] 50X1-HUM and (b) Organic Chemistry Division, headed by Dr. PROFFT, Magdeburg. Both divisions were responsible to Dr. WINKLER, 50X1-HUM secretary of the Chemical Ministry of the DDR in Berlin. The groups organized under the Organic Chemistry Division included:

- a. Pharmaceutical products.
- b. Perfumes
- c. Paraffin oxidation
- d. Hydrogenation products
- e. Textile agents and Detergents: Dr. BRODERSON
- f. Intermediates and Fine Chemicals

The Intermediates and Fine Chemicals Group was headed by Dr. RIECHE. The sub-groups included the Dyes Department, under Dr. HOFFMANN; the Dyes Production Department, under Dr. BAUMANN; the Liaison Officer (myself); and two elderly scientific advisers, Dr. NEELMEYER and Dr. KOENIG. The duties of these subgroups, which met every few weeks,

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were to outline research and production programs consistent with the objectives of both the Five-Year Plan and of the One-Year Plans, and to allocate the funds received from the DDR given in support of a continued research and development program.